

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

Case No. 08-13555(JMP)

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In the Matter of:

LEHMAN BROTHERS HOLDINGS INC., et al.,

Debtors.

- - - - -x

United States Bankruptcy Court

One Bowling Green

New York, New York

June 17, 2009

2:07 PM

B E F O R E:

HON. JAMES M. PECK

U.S. BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

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HEARING re Motion Seeking Authorization of Intercompany Funding
of ARS Holdings II LLC by Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc. [Docket
No. 3872]

HEARING re Debtors' Motion for Approval of a Cross-Border
Insolvency Protocol [Docket No. 3647]

HEARING re Debtors' Motion for Authorization to Establish
Procedures to Sell or Abandon De Minimis Assets [Docket No.
3572]

Transcribed by: Clara Rubin

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 THE COURT: Be seated, please.

3 MR. FAIL: Good morning -- good afternoon, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: Good afternoon.

5 MR. FAIL: Garrett Fail, Weil, Gotshal & Manges, for
6 Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc. and its debtor affiliates. I
7 first wanted to thank Your Honor for accommodating the debtors'
8 request for a hearing this afternoon between omnibus hearings.

9 There are three items on the agenda today, all of
10 which are uncontested. So this should be able to proceed.
11 Unless Your Honor has another request, we could proceed in the
12 order that they appear on the agenda?

13 THE COURT: Let's do it that way.

14 MR. FAIL: Okay. The first motion, Your Honor, is a
15 motion pursuant to Sections 105(a) and 363 of the Bankruptcy
16 Code for authorization of intercompany funding by Lehman
17 Brothers Holdings Inc. of ARS Holdings II LLC, LBHI's nondebtor
18 wholly-owned direct subsidiary.

19 As was set forth in the motion, Your Honor, ARS
20 Holdings is required to fund an earn-out payment to preserve
21 one of Lehman's valuable assets, a twenty-percent interest in
22 D.E. Shaw & Company, L.P. and D.E. Shaw & Co., LLC. If ARS
23 Holdings were to fail to make the payment, it would be in
24 breach of the agreements governing the investment.

25 In order to satisfy its obligations, however, ARS

1 Holdings requires intercompany funding by LBHI. LBHI's agreed
2 to provide the intercompany funding. We've been advised -- the
3 debtors have been advised that the creditors' committee has
4 approved of LBHI's reasonable exercise in its business judgment
5 to do the funding. In exchange for the funding, ARS Holdings
6 will receive a note, which is currently being negotiated to
7 accommodate a request from the creditors' committee's counsel.

8 Your Honor, by order to show cause, you set the
9 objection deadline for this motion as of the beginning of the
10 hearing. And today there have been no objections interposed.

11 So if the Court has any questions, I'd be happy to
12 answer. Otherwise, I would request that the motion be
13 approved.

14 THE COURT: I have no questions about this, but I'll
15 simply inquire if any party-in-interest wishes to be heard with
16 regard to this?

17 MR. O'DONNELL: Your Honor, Dennis O'Donnell, Milbank,
18 Tweed, Hadley & McCloy, on behalf of the committee. Just to
19 reiterate, we did review this proposed transaction. Diligence:
20 the -- both the amount of the payment and the need and
21 justification for making the payment. I believe that it is in
22 the best interest of the estates to allow this funding to be
23 made.

24 THE COURT: Fine. That makes it easier for me to say
25 yes.

1 MR. FAIL: Thank you very much, Your Honor.

2 MR. KRASNOW: Your Honor --

3 THE COURT: Good afternoon.

4 MR. KRASNOW: -- Richard Krasnow, Weil, Gotshal &
5 Manges LLP, for the debtors. Your Honor, it is with great
6 pleasure that I appear before you this afternoon with respect
7 to the debtors' motion for approval of a cross-border
8 insolvency protocol. That motion appears as docket number
9 3647.

10 Your Honor, I don't know that I really need to go into
11 great detail with regards to this protocol. I think we first
12 reported on our efforts in this regard. One of my partners,
13 Mr. Perez, and Mr. Erhmann from Alvarez & Marsal was here today
14 and has really been on point in this entire process.

15 We started on February 11th advising the Court as to
16 our intention to see whether or not we could do in this case
17 what has never been done before with regards to a cross-border
18 protocol involving multiple debtors in proceedings throughout
19 the world, governed by both civil and common law, to see
20 whether or not we could all gather together the administrators
21 and the Chapter 11 debtors in recognition of the fact that
22 Lehman, while a disparate enterprise in some respects, was
23 uniform and united in many others, cash management, data
24 systems and the like, to see if we could fill a vacuum, if you
25 will, that exists in the lack of any public law dealing with

1 something like that and arrive at a consensual private
2 agreement, if you will, amongst all of the administrators to
3 see if there were uniform approaches that we could arrive at in
4 dealing with common issues, common problems and, hopefully,
5 common solutions.

6 Your Honor, I'm hesitant to emphasize that which is in
7 the protocol and that which has been noted in two of the
8 statements in support that have been filed here, one by the
9 committee and one by the ad hoc committee of creditors of the
10 debtors, which is to say that this is not a binding agreement,
11 that if the Court were to approve, as we hope it does, the
12 protocol, all the Court is approving is the concept of the
13 protocol and not any resolutions that may be arrived at amongst
14 the administrators which may require subsequent approval by
15 whatever tribunals are implicated by those resolutions.

16 I would rather focus, Your Honor, on what this
17 protocol is. It's more than aspirational, Your Honor. It's an
18 enthusiastic indication and desire by the administrators, who
19 are parties to the protocol, and the Chapter 11 debtors that
20 there is a path to be followed and a desire, a mindset on the
21 part of the administrators and the debtors to try to cut our
22 way through the morass and indeed arrive at common solutions
23 here.

24 Your Honor, if -- and that enthusiasm is reflected in
25 part by the fact that one of the administrators who is a party

1 to the protocol, the Dutch trustee, and I've already apologized
2 to him before the hearing because I was convinced I will
3 mispronounce his name, Mr. Schinimelpenninck --

4 THE COURT: How did he do, Mr. Schinimelpenninck? Is
5 that right? Did we pronounce your name correctly?

6 MR. SCHINIMELPENNINCK: Yes.

7 THE COURT: Or close enough at least?

8 MR. KRASNOW: The protocol is working, Your Honor.

9 THE COURT: Great.

10 MR. KRASNOW: That if Your Honor is inclined to grant
11 this motion, and just so the Court is aware what the next steps
12 will be, there have been -- the parties have, in essence,
13 almost worked in furtherance of the protocol and consistent
14 with the ideals of the protocol even before it was signed,
15 indeed even before it was finalized.

16 There have been numerous discussions and meetings.
17 Mr. Ehrmann has travelled the world. And some of the
18 administrators have even come to New York: the Dutch trustee,
19 Dr. Frege, the administrator for Bankhaus. We've also met with
20 PwC Switzerland, who is the administrator for Finance SA.

21 We -- the next steps will be -- those are individual
22 meetings. Again, if Your Honor approves this, that there is a
23 meeting which is scheduled in London in mid-July to be attended
24 by all of the signatories to the protocol, as well as a number
25 of administrators who either have not yet obtained the

1 requisite approval to be signatories to the protocol -- that
2 would include the administrator in Luxembourg -- and others who
3 are still debating whether they will become formal members of
4 the protocol but, even if they do not, have indicated a desire
5 to participate in the process, which from our perspective is
6 the same as becoming a member of the protocol group, if you
7 will. And those parties include, Your Honor, a representative
8 from LB Japan; the PwC Switzerland has indicated whether or not
9 they'd become a party to the protocol, that they would
10 participate in the meeting in London. PwC Bermuda, they are
11 provisional liquidators in connection with a Bermudan entity;
12 they too have indicated an intention to appear.

13 I should also note, Your Honor, that as reflected in a
14 recent filing we made prior to the hearing, the trustee for
15 Lehman Brothers Inc. is a signatory to the protocol. And the
16 trustee and his representatives will also be attending the
17 meeting.

18 So it's a very good start to what I'm sure will not be
19 a short process, but we are very optimistic that it will result
20 in a satisfactory resolution that will benefit all stakeholders
21 and will expedite in many ways the administration of our case
22 and other cases in a very cost-effective manner.

23 Your Honor, unless you have any questions, based on --

24 THE COURT: I have two questions --

25 MR. KRASNOW: Very well.

1 THE COURT: -- based upon your presentation. And you
2 should feel free to deflect responding if you think it would be
3 just as well not to respond. One question involves the meeting
4 just adverted to take place in July. What's the agenda for
5 that meeting, if there is one? And what would be a successful
6 outcome of that meeting from the perspective of the debtors?
7 That's really a two-part question.

8 MR. KRASNOW: Your Honor, one of the significant
9 common issues that is addressed in the protocol and in the
10 motion and in the prior presentations that we've made to the
11 Court relate to intercompany claims. Intercompany claims fall
12 in at least two groups, and they're probably subgroups. You
13 have intercompany claims that relate to trading relationships,
14 swaps and the like, derivatives, but you also have a
15 significant number of intercompany claims that represent loans
16 and advances, expenses, sharing of expenses, and the like.

17 And one of the primary focuses of the meeting will be
18 to discuss with the administrators, or continue the discussions
19 that we've already commenced, as to whether or not, given the
20 nature of the claims, given the manner in which Lehman operated
21 prior to the commencement of the case, whether there is a
22 methodology that can be adopted with respect to those claims
23 which would at least accelerate and facilitate agreements
24 amongst the parties as to the amounts of those claims.

25 Similarly -- and that's very much of a multilateral

1 kind of issue. As to the trading, the derivatives and the
2 like, in one respect, Your Honor, the issues that arise amongst
3 and between the Lehman entities is bilateral in nature. On the
4 other hand, there are multilateral issues as to how one might
5 calculate the claims that exist between the parties. And that
6 too will be the subject of discussion.

7 I don't doubt that there will be discussions regarding
8 data-sharing issues, but I would say that those are two or
9 three of the topics that we would anticipate discussing. I am
10 sure there will be more. And we would anticipate that
11 subsequent to that meeting there will be further meetings,
12 maybe not all physical, but other meetings that we'll have as a
13 group, as subgroups and like.

14 And as I noted, Your Honor, and this was a point that
15 was addressed in some of the statements, and certainly it was a
16 point that was raised by some creditors who have inquired of us
17 with respect to the provisions of this protocol, to the extent
18 that any consensus that is reached amongst the administrators,
19 the parties to the protocol and those who would not participate
20 which would necessitate going back to the respective tribunals,
21 then, as it relates to us, we would come back to court and seek
22 approval of that.

23 Again, in approving this protocol, if the Court is
24 inclined to do so, the Court is not approving any specific
25 resolutions and proposals that may emanate from this process.

1 I hope I've answered Your Honor's questions.

2 THE COURT: You have. I have a second, and this is
3 the one you may want to duck.

4 MR. KRASNOW: There's a reason for a podium, Your
5 Honor.

6 THE COURT: On May 13th, I received a rather lengthy
7 letter with attachments from Linklaters on behalf of the U.K.
8 administrators setting forth a rationale for the U.K.
9 administrators not participating in the multilateral protocol.
10 You, on behalf of the estates, sent a letter as well the next
11 day, if I recall, raising some concerns about the involvement
12 of the U.K. Court, but apparently without notice to the
13 debtors, in authorizing the issuance and transmittal of that
14 letter.

15 I'm not trying to open up that Pandora's box, but my
16 general question is has anything positive in reference to the
17 relationship between the U.K. estate and the debtors' other
18 estates transpired since then? And should I draw any comfort
19 from the fact that the July meeting is taking place in London?

20 MR. KRASNOW: One answer, Your Honor, could be, if I
21 wanted to be a little humorous, is can we define "positive"?
22 But seriously, Your Honor, one of the reas -- there are a
23 number of reasons for selecting London, not the least of which
24 is you have parties coming from Asia, the U.S. and elsewhere.
25 Another reason -- and so that was a central location -- it

1 would certainly facilitate LBIE and PwC if they chose to come
2 on in and have dinner with us, as we are proposing to have as
3 part of the program, or participate in some of the meeting. It
4 would certainly facilitate that. And we are -- we would hope
5 that they would consider that. They have, so far, indicated
6 that they don't have a current intention of participating in
7 that process.

8 Having said that, Your Honor, included in the
9 materials that were sent to the Court was a proposed memorandum
10 of understanding which went precisely to the proposed
11 methodology treatment, at least in terms of calculating amounts
12 of intercompany claims. And I think that was something -- I
13 know it was something that was sent to numerous administrators,
14 as well as ourselves, through that submission. And it was, I
15 think, the first written product that had been circulated
16 amongst the parties as a proposal. And while we have some
17 questions about some of their suggestions and perhaps some
18 disagreements in that regard, we thought that it was a very
19 good talking piece.

20 And, indeed, there has been communication between
21 representatives of the debtors and PwC and LBIE regarding their
22 proposal. And it's our intention to, in fact, include amongst
23 our agenda items at the meeting, since everybody received this,
24 to discuss that. And certainly from our perspective, to the
25 extent that PwC wanted to have their views known and listen to

1 other parties' views, notwithstanding their belief that
2 multilateral approaches don't -- is not the approach that they
3 want to adopt, we would very much invite them.

4 We think it would be constructive for them to
5 articulate their views and for them to hear the views of
6 others. And, you know, if everybody signs a piece of paper
7 which is said to be bilateral so you only have two parties but
8 it's the same document, yes, it's bilateral but it's
9 multilateral in nature. And if characterizing that as
10 bilateral works for them, it works for us.

11 So I'm not -- I can't say whether they will agree to
12 what I've just said, but we're certainly hopeful. And we know
13 that -- we understand that a number of administrators have
14 reached out, will be reaching out to them, to see whether or
15 not on some level they would show us the sights in London.

16 THE COURT: Well, I hope the meeting in July turns out
17 to be a productive one and that the representatives of LBIE
18 find some time to intersect with the many other parties-in-
19 interest who will be at least in the same city at that time.

20 I'd also like to make a comment, because I think it's
21 appropriate for me to make this disclosure. And I say this, in
22 part, because the protocol has not yet been approved, although,
23 no suspense here, it will be; it's just a question of when,
24 this afternoon, it's approved. Ordinarily, court-to-court
25 communication is something which is authorized once a protocol

1 has been adopted within a particular jurisdiction. And the ALI
2 and International Insolvency Institute together have
3 promulgated guidelines for court-to-court communications, which
4 guidelines are an exhibit to the debtors' motion.

5 That was more of a theoretical proposition until this
6 week when I received by fax a letter from the supervising judge
7 in the Netherlands simply transmitting to me a copy of a letter
8 that she had transmitted to Justice Blackburn of the High Court
9 of England in Wales. And I'm not attempting now to
10 characterize that communication. I'm simply noting that two
11 court-to-court communications have in fact taken place, one
12 being the letter from the supervising judge in the Netherlands
13 to Mr. Justice Blackburn, the other being the transmittal of
14 that letter to me, along with some other correspondence.

15 I simply wanted that to be publicly disclosed, because
16 in the ordinary course of court-to-court communication there is
17 a, I'll use the term again, protocol for giving some notice to
18 parties-in-interest that such communication either is about to
19 take place or has taken place.

20 MR. KRASNOW: Thank you, Your Honor. I guess I will
21 formally say it, even though the Court has indicated where it
22 is going, but unless the Court has any further questions, we
23 would simply request that the motion be granted and the
24 protocol be approved.

25 THE COURT: I approve it with pleasure.

1 MR. KRASNOW: Thank you, Your Honor.

2 MR. ALBANESE: Good morning, Your Honor -- good
3 afternoon, rather. Anthony Albanese with Weil, Gotshal &
4 Manges, on behalf of the debtors. Your Honor, we're also here
5 today to submit to the Court the motion pursuant to Sections
6 105, 363, 554(a) of the Bankruptcy Code for authority to
7 establish procedures to sell or abandon de minimis assets. And
8 the debtors have sought the Court's approval of the proposed
9 procedures in the motion in order to minimize the burden to the
10 debtors in relieving the debtors' estates of certain
11 unproductive, nonessential and burdensome assets that are not
12 necessary to the efficient winding-down of the estates. The
13 relief sought would minimize the expenses that would be
14 associated with the selling of more than 117,000 assets.

15 I'll just quickly outline the procedures that are
16 detailed in the motion. With respect to the sale procedures,
17 they're both sale and abandonment procedures. With respect to
18 the proposed sale procedures, for assets that fall between
19 300,000 and 2 million, and the value will be measured by the
20 lesser of either the book value or the sale price, for those
21 assets, notice will be given to certain parties that are
22 detailed in the motion, including the creditors' committee and
23 the trustee. And notice would be given to them, but Court
24 approval would not be sought. And they'd be given ten days to
25 object from receipt of notice to any of the proposed sales.

1 For assets that fell in the category below that, below
2 300,000 dollars, notice would not be given to any parties and
3 Court approval would not be sought, with one exception: Notice
4 would be given to the creditors' committee and to Barclays of
5 sale of ownership or the granting of exclusive rights of any
6 copyright, patent or trademark sales. And, again, that would
7 be at any price, so it would cover the below-300,000 dollar
8 category that has been created.

9 Under the proposed abandonment procedures, notice of
10 all abandonments would be given irrespective of amounts. And
11 parties would be given five days to object to any of the
12 proposed abandonments. And monthly reports will be filed with
13 the Court, summarizing all the noticed de minimis sales and all
14 the abandonments for that month.

15 Your Honor, a number of objections have been filed, as
16 Your Honor, I'm sure, has seen. All have been worked out,
17 resolved and withdrawn. And, therefore, we ask the Court's
18 permission to have the proposed order, as revised, approved.

19 THE COURT: I'm prepared to do that. I just want to
20 inquire if anyone wishes to be heard with regard to this
21 matter?

22 MR. FLECK: Good afternoon, Your Honor. Evan Fleck of
23 Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy, on behalf of the official
24 committee of unsecured creditors. Your Honor, in connection
25 with this motion, the committee reviewed the motion and

1 considered the procedures. We are comfortable with the order.
2 We wanted to make the Court aware that the committee takes very
3 seriously procedures that take out of the committee's review
4 particular transactions. Based upon our discussions with the
5 debtors about the assets that are the subject of this motion,
6 we are comfortable that the thresholds that have been agreed to
7 are appropriate.

8 And in the case of abandonment, given that we will
9 have review, and in the other category of sales, given the
10 modifications to the order, we are comfortable that it's
11 appropriate, and it's the appropriate balancing of a procedure
12 for truly de minimis assets. And with that, Your Honor, we are
13 comfortable and supportive of the motion and the revised order.

14 THE COURT: Fine.

15 MR. FLECK: Thank you.

16 THE COURT: The motion is granted.

17 MR. FAIL: Thank you ver --

18 THE COURT: Mr. Fail, it looks as if we've completed
19 the agenda.

20 MR. FAIL: I think that's right, Your Honor. Unless
21 anybody else has anything, thank you for your time.

22 THE COURT: Fine. We're adjourned.

23 (Proceedings were concluded at 2:33 PM)
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I N D E X

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C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, Clara Rubin, certify that the foregoing transcript is a true
and accurate record of the proceedings.

CLARA RUBIN

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